STATE OF LOUISIANA



OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA



Bobby Jindal Governor John Ducrest, CPA Commissioner

September 4, 2008

Commissioner of Financial Institutions Declared Emergency Advisory Pawnbrokers

Pursuant to the powers vested in me by the provisions of ACT 33 of the 2005 1st Extraordinary Legislative Session to carry out the duties of this office to administer or enforce with the respect to the Louisiana Pawnshop Act, and, as a result the serious and continuing destructive effect of Hurricane Gustav in many parishes in the state, including but not limited to dislocation of large segments of the population, widespread loss of utility, transportation, and communication services, flooding of many populated areas, and severe property damage, I hereby deem these conditions to create an emergency relative to pawnbrokers in general in the affected area, and as to their employees, and their customers, and therefore declare the following effective September 3, 2008, and which will expire December 31, 2008, unless renewed by special declaration of the Commissioner:

Affected Parishes

All Louisiana Parishes are in the affected areas.

Recordkeeping

Pawnbrokers in the affected area whose records were destroyed or stolen should make every effort to reconstruct said records. Documentation should be maintained as to which records were destroyed or stolen and what efforts were made to reconstruct and preserve them.

Waivers

The following waivers will be considered for licensees on a case-by-case basis. Your request for waivers of any of the following issues should be submitted in writing to the Office of Financial Institutions by email, U.S. mail, facsimile, courier or hand delivery as soon as practicable.

Location Change; Closure

The agency normally requires prior written notice of a location change or closure and the associated fees and penalties for such change. This may be waived for pawnshops located in the affected areas, provided, the following information is submitted to the Office of Financial Institutions in writing by email, U.S. mail, facsimile, courier or hand delivery as soon as practicable.

<u>Location Change – Temporary or Permanent</u>

- 1. Name/physical address/ of the closed location
- 2. Name/physical address/telephone number/other contact information of the new location
- 3. Name/contact information of person at the new location
- 4. Such other information as the Commissioner may request

Location Closure

- 1. Name/physical address of the closed location
- 2. Name/contact information of person knowledgeable of the closing
- 3. A list of all outstanding pawns as of closure date, including pawn number, pawned item's description and name and address of pledgor.
- 4. Such other information as the Commissioner may request.

The pawnbroker must post a notice of the new location's address at the previous location, if possible. If closing permanently, a notice with owner contact information should be posted for benefit of the pledgors. The requirement that the pawnbroker provide all persons who have things in pledge a written notice or publish the location change in a local newspaper of the new location remains in effect.

Renewal

On a case-by-case basis, the September 1st renewal deadline may be extended and the late payment penalty may be waived for those pawnbrokers that were displaced, evacuated and/or unable to operate as a result of the declared emergency or aftermath of the hurricane. If approved, the renewal must be submitted by December 31, 2008.

Declared and issued this 4th day of September 2008.

John Ducrest, CPA Commissioner

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Office of Financial Institutions